

REMARKS

This Supplemental Preliminary Amendment conforms to the prior Office Action traversing the Examiner's initial identification of three distinct species. In the most recent Office Action, dated April 4, 2003, the Examiner rejected the then pending claims 26 and 27 on the basis of Hinzmann and Focke. Applicant responded on August 26, 2003 (said response lost) and the Examiner requested re-transmission of the response which was actioned by Applicant's former attorney on January 20, 2004. Said response respectfully disagreed with the rejection and set forth arguments to overcome the prior art cited. Pursuant to the aforementioned PETITION FOR REVIVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR PATENT ABANDONED UNINTENTIONALLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(b), Applicant believes that both the Office Action response presently with the USPTO and the new claims herein are in place for examination.

Applicant believes that no new subject matter has been added to the new claims, as support is properly found in the specification, nor that there are any claims which affect the aforementioned argument of January 20, 2004 overcoming the cited prior art rejection in the Examiner's Office Action dated April 4, 2003.

Independent claims 26 and 27 are amended to better describe the function of the drive means so as to improve the clarity and precision of the claim. It will be appreciated that the drive means function as a whole to exert tractive force on the ribbon to move said ribbon through the machine. This minor amendment, inserted for the

aforementioned reason, has been done in the absence of any response or rejection from the Examiner and does not relate to patentability. Dependent claims 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, and 37 are added.

Claim 28 has its basis in the specification of the parent '492 patent at, for example, column 3, lines 1-6, column 6, line 26-28 and Figure 11.

Claim 29 has its basis in said specification at, for example, column 2, line 11-19, Figures 1, 2, 3 and 11.

Claim 30 has its basis in said specification at, for example, column 1, lines 5, 8, 29 and the Abstract.

Claim 31 has its basis in said specification at, for example, column 1, line 35, column 2, lines 1-4, and Figure 12

Claim 32 has its basis in said specification at, for example, column 3, lines 13-15

Claim 33 has its basis in the specification of the parent '492 patent at, for example, column 3, lines 1-6, column 6, line 26-28 and Figure 11.

Claim 34 has its basis in said specification at, for example, column 2, line 11-19, Figures 1, 2, 3 and 11.

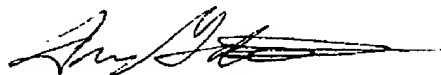
Claim 35 has its basis in said specification at, for example, column 1, lines 5, 8, 29 and the Abstract.

Claim 36 has its basis in said specification at, for example, column 1, line 35, column 2, lines 1-4, and Figure 12

Claim 37 has its basis in said specification at, for example, column 3, lines 13-15

In view of the foregoing it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance and the allowance thereof is respectfully requested on an expedited manner. If the Examiner wishes to discuss any matter in this application, he is welcome to call or alternatively fax a date and time and Applicant will initiate the call.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 21, 2004

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